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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/007,866 | 12/06/2001 | Vijay Kumar | P04829US1 | 6560 |

22885 7590 11/15/2004

MCKEE, VOORHEES & SEASE, P.L.C.
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SUITE 3200
DES MOINES, IA 50309-2721

EXAMINER

WHITE, EVERETT NMN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1623

DATE MAILED: 11/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Advisory Action | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/007,866 | KUMAR ET AL. |
| | Examiner | Art Unit |
| | EVERETT WHITE | 1623 |

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 14 July 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

- a) The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.
ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
 - (a) they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 - (b) they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
 - (c) they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 - (d) they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: See Continuation Sheet.

3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
4. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
 5. The a) affidavit, b) exhibit, or c) request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.
6. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) will not be entered or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

Claim(s) rejected: 7-12 and 35-37.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: 13-34.

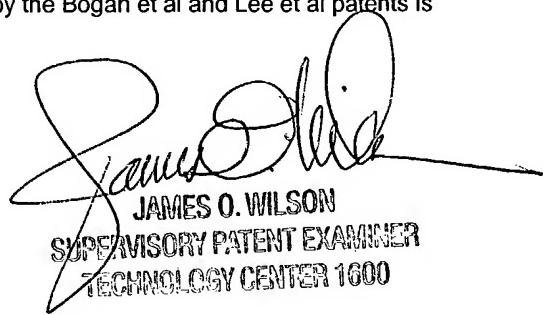
8. The drawing correction filed on _____ is a) approved or b) disapproved by the Examiner.

9. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s)(PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.

10. Other: _____.

Continuation of 2. NOTE: The insertion of the term "biodegradable" in the claims raise new issues that would require further consideration.

Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: The Supplemental 132 Declaration filed July 14, 2004 by Dr. Vijay Kumar sets forth an argument against the rejection of the claims on the ground that the instantly claimed oxidized cellulose ester are biodegradable wherein the cellulose esters disclosed in the Bogan et al and Lee et al patents are not. This argument is not persuasive since the structures of the oxidized cellulose ester described in the instant claims are substantially analogous to the carboxylated cellulose esters disclosed in the Bogan et al and Lee et al patents. The Supplemental 132 Declaration also points out the differences in the intended use of the instantly claimed oxidized cellulose esters and the carboxylated cellulose esters disclosed in the Bogan et al and Lee et al patents. Applicants are reminded that a difference in intended use cannot render a claimed composition novel. Note In re Tuominen, 213 USPQ 89 (CCPA, 1982); In re Pearson, 494 F2d 1399; 181 USPQ 641 (CCPA, 1974); and In re Hack 114 USPQ 161. Accordingly, the rejection of Claims 7-12 and 35-37 as being anticipated by the Bogan et al and Lee et al patents is maintained for the reasons of record.



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